

# St. Helens Mist

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## J. BOWLBY VISITS COLUMBIA COUNTY

### FRUITS OF HIS LABORS ON HIGHWAY.

Travelled by Foot Over a Considerable Portion of the Road, Viewing Conditions.

Major Bowlby, state highway engineer, has visited Columbia county for the first time. This event took place during the present week, when that gentleman, in company with others, traveled by foot over a considerable portion of the work of Columbia Highway in this county. Just what the result will be is very problematical, but there has been nothing accomplished on the highway since last winter; however, the county has been allowed claims for salaries and expenses along. This condition, was brought to a temporary ending by County Court at its regular term, when it refused to allow a batch of claims accruing since last term of court, for alleged services rendered, approximating \$1200. These bills were returned to Major Bowlby for an examination and careful itemizing. The court, in returning these bills, wrote the Major a very strong letter of complaint regarding his attitude in road matters here during the past three months, and strongly criticized his actions and presented vigorous protest. In reply the Major side-stepped the issue entirely.

The letter is published in full in this issue of The Mist, incorporated in the published proceedings of the March term of court, of which it is duly entered by order, as a part of the proceedings. It will be found in the first column on page four, to which we direct the attention of our readers.

It must be evident that the Court is of some well-founded reason for its attitude in this matter. These reasons have been apparent for a long time to many people. Not until the present Court became familiar with the inside workings of the highway problem could these conditions be thoroughly understood. Judge Clark and Commissioner Harvey now see the situation as it had existed from the beginning. They are in possession of a vast amount of knowledge of road matters in which they were deficient prior to their installation in office. They readily see the situation as it exists, with its myriad of complications. They are trying to extricate the county from these difficulties and find, in doing so, that their position is not at all unlike that of their predecessors.

## ROAD SITUATION IN CLATSOP COUNTY

Vigorous Criticism of the Work So Far Done There.

The County Court of Clatsop county has called upon the State for aid in the matter of road construction. If the Governor will come down here and inspect the work done under the alleged supervision of Major Bowlby we think he will be convinced that this county has something coming to it. It has drained its resources to the limit and has been gold bricked by the State's officials. Money has been sent by the hundreds of thousands of dollars and the people have got very little to show for their money. The work done by the State has been of the poorest quality and will not last so long as a good dirt road. The immense sum expended on the so-called highway would have built many miles of good macadam road, and the farmers would have been enabled to get to the railroad towns and shipping points with their produce. Some men are dishonest while others are just swell headed fools, but either type is expensive when entrusted with the carrying out of a great project.—Warrenton News.

### Visited County School.

School Superintendent Allen visited the schools in the vicinity of Warrenton Tuesday. Mr. Allen reported good progress being made in the school district No. 23, at Warrenton, and the adjoining district, No. 24. Both these districts are ready to standardize their schools.

## INSTRUCTED TO INSTITUTE SUITS

City Will Undertake to Collect Delinquent Assessments for Sewers.

The city recorder was ordered by the council at its meeting last Monday evening to proceed at once with the actions for the collection of the delinquent assessments levied against property in the various sewer districts for the installation of sewers. There have been some of the assessments paid in full. Other property owners have availed themselves of the bonding privilege and others have ignored the order of the council entirely, on the grounds of illegality. This feature of the situation has been brought about partly by what is claimed to be defects in the charter and unequal assessments. It seems to be fairly up to the council to defend its previous actions, hence the instruction to the recorder to proceed in a legal way against the delinquents. The outcome of the matter will be watched with keen interest.

## RUTABAGAS MAKE DAIRY STOCK THRIVE

Deer Island Farmer Feeds Herd Throughout Winter on Vegetable.

A new order of things has been inaugurated on the Jacob Hammer farm at Deer Island, whereby considerable saving has been effected in the common expense of maintaining a herd of dairy cattle. This innovation was brought about by the utilization of rutabagas as a substitute for mill feed, and the results have been highly satisfactory. Mr. Hammer produced a large crop of this vegetable last year, and has fed them steadily throughout the winter and spring, gathering them daily from the field. He planted the seed in July and throughout the remainder of the summer and fall there was little moisture fell, but the crop was remarkably heavy. After using the crop for such a long period of time, Mr. Hammer says he has an abundance of the rutabagas left. He brought a sample of his crop to St. Helens Monday. This particular rutabaga weighed nine pounds and fifteen ounces, and measured 27 inches in circumference. During times such as are being experienced at present, when mill feed is selling at such a high price, it stands the stockman well in hand to find and produce substitutes, provided results are at all satisfactory.

## BASEBALL SEASON NEARLY AT HAND

Devotees of the National Game are Planning for Season's Work.

Springtime is here and the baseball season is coming thundering along, with all the joys that it brings to the hearts of its devotees. The germ is in the air, and some of the fans are already inoculated. There is but one sure cure for the ailment, and that is to play ball. With this object in view we have been asked by interested ones to announce that a public meeting will be held at the recorder's office, in the city hall, in St. Helens, on Thursday evening, March 18th, at which time definite plans for the season's sport will be made. Among other matters to be taken up will be the appointment of a manager and ways and means devised by which the expense of the club can be met. It is estimated that it will require about \$300 to see the club through a successful season. Some repairs to the grounds are necessary, and other expenses will have to be met. An appeal is issued to all loyal fans to be present at the meeting.

## CITY FOUNTAIN IS DRESSED IN RED

Flery Hue Tends to Create Appetite for Drink.

Fred Watkins has decorated the city fountain, in Strand street, with a coat of red and green paint. We can understand the occasion for the green, but are at a loss to understand just why Fred chose the red. This is one of the most peaceable communities in existence, but the fiery decoration of that "fount of life" might get us in bad. However, Fred has some well defined notions about these matters, and his motive will be divulged some day.

## COUNCIL ORDERS NEW CHARTER PREPARED

### FEATURE WILL BE PROVISION AUTHORIZING BOND ISSUE.

Several Matters Upon Which Public Will be Called to Decide.

The city council of St. Helens met in regular session Monday night, with a full attendance and a large budget of important public matters to be acted upon. Foremost among these was the action of entering into a contract with Morris Bros., of Portland, to draft a new charter for the city, which will include, among other things, the provision for bonding the city in order to refund the city's indebtedness.

The action of the council at its last meeting, in regard to the new charter was a renewal or an extension of the former contract entered into some months ago with Morris Bros., regarding the drafting of a charter.

It is hoped to have the new charter ready to be submitted to a vote of the people at the next general city election to be held on April 5. In the event of failure in this respect, the charter will be ready for submission to the voters at a later date.

The purpose of a new charter is to correct defects in the present charter which does not permit of issuing bonds. And, as it is deemed advisable to refund the city's debt, this action was considered the most expedient method of curing certain existing evils.

A resolution was made and carried that the warrant indebtedness of the city be refunded in bonds to the amount of \$10,000, contingent upon the proposed new charter being adopted in view of which the council entered into a contract with Morris Bros. to take up the bond issue at par value.

The matter of collection of the assessments levied for sewer installation was discussed at considerable length, resulting in an order being made, directing the recorder to institute suit against delinquents for the collection of assessments, said action to be taken immediately.

A proposal was made to the council to order the matter submitted to a vote of the people, authorizing the improvement of the street leading from the court house toward Houlton, with wooden block pavement to a width of sixteen feet. The council ordered the matter submitted at the city election to be held April 5th.

An ordinance, the purpose of which is the apportioning of the cost of the improving of sewer district No. 7, by severing and draining the same, and providing for assessing the cost of the same to the property benefited thereby, was read the first time.

A claim for placing a lateral sewer from the Paulsen and Constantin property, in block 31, extending through the city park, was presented by G. T. Pierce, contractor, in the sum of \$159.06, was ordered paid. A bill for labor on the drainage ditch, totaling \$130.50, was also ordered paid, as was also a bill from J. C. Kelly, for repairing a crosswalk, in the sum of \$4.35.

## MEN MEN! LET'S HIGH OURSELVES TO FORE

The Fair Sex Has Designs Upon Us—Shall We Yield all Our Rights?

The editor of The Mist had an awful fright thrown into him yesterday, when a member of the fair sex visited our sanctum to inform us that the fate of the men of the community is sealed. The women are after us. In fact, they always have been after us. It's a part of the fabric of the Creator's weave. In the beginning woman came after us and has been after us ever since. In the present difficulty, however, we were informed that a woman is to be nominated for a place on the city ticket as an "alderman." In the event that this should transpire we want to congratulate the ladies in advance and wish them good luck.

### Logging Camps Resume.

The logging camps of the Clark & Wilson Lumber Company, in the vicinity of Goble, have resumed operations for the summer.

## SCHOOL OFFICERS WILL HOLD MEETING

Interesting Session Scheduled to Take Place on March 20th.

An interesting meeting of the school officers of this county has been called by County Superintendent Allen to be held at the court house, in St. Helens, March 20th. The object of the meeting is to discuss ways and means for the betterment of school matters generally, in which the school officers will give an exchange of ideas. An interesting programme has been arranged, consisting of opening remarks by the chairman: "Standard Schools," J. B. Wilkerson; "School Grounds, Size, Play, Sheds, Appearance and Improvement," L. R. Rutherford; Address by Superintendent J. A. Churchill, Marion county; "Parent-Teachers Circle," Judge A. L. Clark; "Industrial Education and Club Work, County Fair," G. L. Tarbell; "Hiring a Teacher, Registration," F. D. Titchener. The school superintendent is very desirous that every school officer who possibly can, attend. The election of officers will be an important part of the proceedings that will be had.

## WELL KNOWN LADY DIES AT LOS ANGELES

Former Resident of Houlton and Prominent Lodge Member.

Seaside, Ore., March 7, 1915. David Davis, Editor Mist. Dear Sir:—I am writing to inform you that Mrs. Sarah E. Henderson, wife of Capt. A. A. Henderson, formerly of Houlton, died March 2, 1915, at the home of her niece, Mrs. Ada C. Holcomb, at Los Angeles. Had Mrs. Henderson lived until the 7th of next April she would have been 75 years of age. Very truly,

A. F. HENSHAW.

[Mrs. Henderson was well and favorably known in this vicinity, having resided at Houlton for a great many years, until the death of her husband, about fifteen years ago. She was a member of the Eastern Star chapter of this city.—Editor.]

## STATE FAIR DAYS ARE DESIGNATED

The state fair board, in session at Salem on the 9th, designated five of the six days of the state fair which opens September 27. Monday, the opening day, was named as children's day; Wednesday, Salem day; Thursday, Portland day; Friday, Oregon manufacturers' and press day; Saturday, Shriners' day. Tuesday was left open, and will be named in the near future.

## MENTION OF LOCAL MATTERS GENERALLY

The James Muckle home, in Portland, was burglarized a few days ago. Mr. and Mrs. Muckle have been away from home for some time, being in Hawaii. Nothing of material value was taken, so far as relatives can determine, as most of the valuables were stored or banked before the owners left home. The touring party is expected to arrive in San Francisco March 15th.

A. L. Larson, a progressive farmer, of Warren, was in the county seat Monday. Mr. Larson is a stockholder in the Columbia River Canning & Produce Company, whose plant at St. Helens was recently completed. While Mr. Larson is now engaged in general farming, he is contemplating engaging in the culture of small fruits, especially Loganberries.

Elmer L. Olsen, of Goble, was in the county seat Monday, contributing his portion to the maintenance of the county government. Mr. Olsen has recently purchased the Melville place, of forty acres, four and one-half miles southwest of Goble, and is now residing there. He will engage quite extensively in dairying, which, he says, is the only independent life and the surest means of ready money.

J. T. Tabor, of Noah's Ark, has organized a baseball team from among the juniors of the community, and is going forth to do battle with all comers. Mr. Tabor has designated his team as "Noah's Ark Midgets." No boy over fourteen years of age will be permitted to play in the team. Just as soon as is possible the boys will go into training, and a lively season of sport is anticipated.

## COUNTY FAIR DATES HAVE BEEN NAMED

### DETAILS WELL IN HAND FOR SPLENDID FAIR IN SEPTEMBER.

Several Special Features are Likely to be Added to the Attractions.

The dates have been arranged and the high sign has been given, and now we're off in a blaze of glory for the biggest and best fair yet held in Columbia County. The vice-presidents of the Fair Association held an interesting meeting last Saturday, when many of the details were arranged for the 1915 fair, dates for which were placed for September 22-23-24. The meeting of the officials of the fair is the signal for everybody in the county to get busy. Do your planning now for the exhibits you will have on display. If you had an exhibit last year, try to make your exhibit a better one this year. Outdo your neighbor if you can. Win all the glory possible. Boost the fair all the time. Get behind it morally and otherwise. Urge your neighbor to prepare an exhibit and invite your friends to attend. This is not a locality institution—it is a Columbia county institution, and the people of the county are urged to take an interest in it.

In all probability there will be many innovations and some interesting features added. The directors have under consideration several matters which will add greatly to the attractiveness and interest of and in the institution.

At Saturday's meeting, which was called to order by President Tarbell, Mrs. W. B. Dillard was appointed secretary, pro tem. After some discussion the dates mentioned above were decided upon for the fair. The feasibility of adding as a feature this year, a Eugenic contest was discussed at some length. In the event that this feature is added it will probably be necessary to erect a suitable building for the purpose. This matter was left to the president and secretary for final decision.

It was decided to make the school exhibit a special feature, which will require a separate building. Ways and means for raising the necessary funds for this feature were discussed. It was decided to appoint a committee to work out these details and report at a meeting of school directors to be held in St. Helens March 20. Mrs. Edwin Ross, of St. Helens, Mrs. Fred Trow, of Rainier, and Mrs. Mildred Watts, of Scappoose, were named on this committee.

The importance of school work exhibits is growing yearly, and greater interest and better results will be had through the fact that the county school superintendent has been made a member of the county fair board by an act of the legislature. This will have a most salutary effect on the school exhibit.

A premium list committee, consisting of W. J. Allen, Mrs. W. B. Dillard and Mrs. J. E. Grant was appointed.

The matter of superintendent of the several departments of the fair was left with the president to fill by appointment.

The ladies of the Congregational church of St. Helens, were granted the concession to conduct a lunch counter on the fair grounds.

The resignation of L. R. Rutherford as secretary was tendered and accepted and H. J. Southard was chosen to fill the vacancy.

The dates for the fair have been arranged for one week ahead of the state fair in order to permit of exhibits being taken to the latter, if so desired by anyone.

## BRINGING IN LOGS FROM A DISTANCE

Local Boys Are Hauling Output to This City.

Ernest Kelly and Leslie Watters are engaged in the logging business under somewhat unusual conditions. They are cutting the timber in the vicinity of Yankton and hauling it by wagon to St. Helens, where it is put in the water. The boys have been bringing in some unusually long sticks of piling. They are disposing of their output to the mill company and Broughton & Wiggins.

## CITY ELECTION WILL BE IMPORTANT ONE

Special Matters Will be Submitted to the Will of the People.

The importance of the forthcoming city election is growing daily. At the outset it was not contemplated that there would be any matters to be voted on, save the election of city officials, but emergencies have arisen and the election gives promise of being a most important one. Defects and irregularities seem to lurk in the present charter, which renders it an unsatisfactory and perhaps dangerous guide in public matters, and the council has decided to have another charter drawn, which will remedy the existing evils and provide a safer guide for future transactions.

The important feature which the new charter will contain will be a provision authorizing the council to sell bonds for refunding the public debt, which seems to be a very wise provision and safe and timely precaution. Just at this time the warrant indebtedness of the city is about \$14,000. Business is conducted on a warrant basis, and some difficulty and embarrassment has been experienced in the disposition of warrants issued. Such a condition is both unbusinesslike and unsafe.

The assessed valuation of property in the city is close to one million dollars. The indebtedness approximates \$89,000, included in which are the water bonds for \$40,000, which take care of themselves; about \$35,000 of sewer indebtedness, for which the property of the several districts should be liable under proper charter conditions. The attitude the council has assumed in this matter seems sane and sound. The proposition to sell bonds as a means to retire the warrant indebtedness is regarded as a timely move on the part of the authorities. It appears as most expedient, insofar as it would not increase the rate of interest of the public debt. The bonds will sell at par and can be retired after ten years, if considered advisable, although they can be sold with the option of running for a period of twenty years.

## TRADES ARE MADE OF LOCAL PROPERTY

N. O. Larabee, who represents West St. Helens in the city council, and who has for some time, operated a livery and transfer business at Houlton, has disposed of his interests in that line to Guy Bennett, who will conduct the business in the future. In turn, Mr. Larabee has purchased from Mr. Bennett his residence in Railroad Addition, and the gentlemen will exchange residential locations.

## STATEMENTS ABOUT YANKTON PEOPLE

The Order of Redmen will give a dance here on Saturday, March 20th. Mrs. Deimar Masten and baby spent last week visiting in Portland and Houlton.

Mrs. Chestnut left on Tuesday of this week for her old home in Kansas, where she expects to remain.

A number of men of this neighborhood have gone to work at the Chapman logging camps, at Scappoose.

Mrs. Hugh Leiferman has moved to Houlton. She recently purchased the property there owned by Lee Welsh.

John Karth, Allen Chambers and Mat Chestnut are preparing to leave on Friday of this week for Blind Slough, Oregon, where they have secured employment.

## ATHLETIC CLUB IS DULY INCORPORATED

Local Amusement Association Gets Organization in Shape.

The Sunset Amateur Athletic Club, of St. Helens, is a duly organized institution now. The details of incorporation were completed last Monday, and the members will be ready in a few days to issue certificates of stock to any who desire to purchase. The club is incorporated with a capital stock of \$2000, divided into 2000 shares, at the par value of \$1 per share. The incorporators are L. E. Allen, H. F. Peterson and F. J. Sten. The boys have a very creditable club home, and it is an institution to be encouraged morally and financially.